

Program A: Traffic Enforcement

Program Authorization: R.S. 32:1504-1517; R.S. 32:1711 et seq.; R.S. 40:1379.8; R.S. 51:579

Program Description

The mission of the Traffic Enforcement Program in the Office of State Police is to ensure the safety and security of the people in the state through enforcement, education, and provision of other essential public safety services.

The goals of the Traffic Law Enforcement Program in the Office of State Police are:

1. Become better partners with the public through community policing.
2. Ensure that all patrol personnel are provided the safest and most advanced equipment technologically available.
3. Promote safer transportation of hazardous materials.
4. Ensure that motor vehicle operators possess a valid driver's license, vehicles are properly inspected, and motorist maintain liability insurance. Additionally, driver's license and title fraud will be thoroughly investigated.

The Traffic Enforcement Program includes the following activities: Troop Traffic Enforcement, Transportation and Environmental Safety Section, and Safety Enforcement.

Troop Traffic Enforcement essentially was established by Act 120 of 1922, which created the Office of the State Police and charged it with enforcing laws regulating the use of highways. Troopers assigned to troop locations are responsible for promoting highway safety through education and enforcement of the Highway Regulatory Act in addition to enforcing all criminal laws. Their primary duties include investigating vehicle crashes and protect the public both on and off the highway. (For a comparison of traffic trooper manpower in southeastern states, see the table under the Office of State Police agency description.)

The Transportation and Environmental Safety Section (TESS) of the Traffic Enforcement Program enforces regulations and requirements related to hazardous materials, motor carrier safety, towing and recovery, metal control, and explosives control, and weights and standards. Hazardous Materials Reporting: The federal Hazardous Materials Information, Development, Preparedness and Response Act and the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) require that regulated businesses report on an annual basis the presence of hazardous substances at their places of business. These acts require the reporting of any releases of these substances into the environment. The TESS Right-to-Know Unit, functioning as the repository of this data, is charged with the collection, maintenance, and coordination of all data required by these acts and with ensuring public availability of this data as required by law.

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>Transportation of Hazardous Materials: Act 83 of 1979 authorizes and directs the Department of Public Safety to promulgate necessary rules and regulations and to oversee compliance governing the transportation of hazardous materials, freight, and passengers. The unit provides emergency response to chemical emergencies at industrial sites or sites related to transportation by highway, rail or pipeline. It further ensures that all carrier transportation meet standards of safe operation, manufacture, and maintenance. This is accomplished by roadside inspections conducted on commercial transport vehicles that transport hazardous freight, material, and passengers and by inspections of rail transportation facilities.

>Motor Carrier Safety: The Motor Carrier Safety Program is an international, coordinated, and uniform program of inspection and enforcement activities related to intrastate and interstate commercial vehicles and drivers for safety violations. The program is designed to immediately place defective drivers and defective vehicles out of service, if necessary, until defects have been corrected. The agenda provides for safety and compliance reviews of transportation facilities, as mandated by federal rule. The laws governing the program allow for the assessment of civil penalties. One of the unit's major goals is to begin accident report development and revisions to correlate commercial accident data with motor carrier safety.

>Right-To-Know: Act 435 of 1985 provides for the creation of the Hazardous Materials Information Development Preparedness and Response Advisory Board; provides administrative functions for the Department of Public Safety and Corrections; provides requirements for certain owners and operators of certain businesses to report information about certain hazardous materials; and creates the Hazardous Materials Information and Development Preparedness and Response Fund to be used to provide the functions as outlined in the act. Towing and Recovery: R.S. 32:1711 et. seq. authorizes the TESS Towing and Recovery Unit to regulate towing and wrecker industry and provide rules and regulation pertaining to the towing and storage of vehicles. The unit monitors and regulates the industry statewide.

>Metal Control: Under the authority of R.S. 51:579, the TESS is responsible for maintenance of records concerning all sales and purchases of certain precious metals. This is accomplished through the monitoring of the scrap and metal dealers in the state to ensure that proper records are kept.

>Explosives Control: Under the authority of R.S. 40:147, the TESS is responsible for inspection of explosive materials storage magazines and investigation of theft or illegal possession of explosives. The TESS also provides specialized technical expertise and equipment (specifically bomb technicians who can defuse and dispose of a bomb) to local governments that may be confronted with the illegal use of explosives.

>Emergency Response Training Center: The Emergency Response Training Center is located in Holden, LA. This center is tasked with training both government and private industry personnel in hazardous material response techniques.

>Weights and Standards: Under the authority of R.S. 40:1379.8, the TESS is responsible for enforcing weight, size, vehicle license and fuel tax regulations on all state and federal highways. The Safety Enforcement Section is comprised of commissioned police officers who are responsible for ensuring that all Louisiana motor vehicle inspection stations are inspected. Department of Public Safety (DPS) Police provide security and law enforcement for buildings including the barracks that house prison inmate trustees. Additionally, the DPS Capitol police provide security and law enforcement needs for the State Capitol Complex, Governor's Mansion and other buildings in the capitol area.

>Police protection for the Governor: Act 681 of 1988 requires the State Police to provide and maintain the security for the Governor, his office, the mansion, his immediate family, and other persons authorized by the Governor. Currently, the Office of State Police also provides protection for the Lieutenant Governor.

RESOURCE ALLOCATION FOR THE PROGRAM

	ACTUAL 2000-2001	ACT 12 2001-2002	EXISTING 2001-2002	CONTINUATION 2002-2003	RECOMMENDED 2002-2003	RECOMMENDED OVER/(UNDER) EXISTING
MEANS OF FINANCING:						
STATE GENERAL FUND (Direct)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,102,970	\$985,930	\$985,930
STATE GENERAL FUND BY:						
Interagency Transfers	1,430,830	1,337,153	1,814,741	1,821,345	4,375,151	2,560,410
Fees & Self-gen. Revenues	3,553,776	3,768,457	3,931,688	3,953,484	5,439,541	1,507,853
Statutory Dedications	41,216,192	44,001,059	43,735,088	41,824,549	41,731,213	(2,003,875)
Interim Emergency Board	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS	2,673,985	2,554,454	3,615,032	3,539,988	3,528,913	(86,119)
TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCING	\$48,874,783	\$51,661,123	\$53,096,549	\$56,242,336	\$56,060,748	\$2,964,199
EXPENDITURES & REQUEST:						
Salaries	\$31,120,734	\$32,657,122	\$33,437,537	\$35,674,946	\$34,846,988	\$1,409,451
Other Compensation	63,033	78,491	78,491	78,491	78,491	0
Related Benefits	3,227,062	3,104,379	4,005,136	4,285,529	5,084,809	1,079,673
Total Operating Expenses	9,108,261	8,618,487	8,807,425	5,092,448	4,983,202	(3,824,223)
Professional Services	60,466	262,967	490,528	496,839	490,528	0
Total Other Charges	1,170,183	2,469,992	1,556,358	6,144,398	6,107,045	4,550,687
Total Acq. & Major Repairs	4,125,044	4,469,685	4,652,439	4,469,685	4,469,685	(182,754)
UNALLOTTED	0	0	68,635	0	0	(68,635)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND REQUEST	\$48,874,783	\$51,661,123	\$53,096,549	\$56,242,336	\$56,060,748	\$2,964,199
AUTHORIZED FULL-TIME						
EQUIVALENTS: Classified	885	903	899	954	946	47
Unclassified	2	0	2	2	3	1
TOTAL	887	903	901	956	949	48

SOURCE OF FUNDING

This program is funded with State General Fund, Interagency Transfers, Fees and Self-generated Revenues, Statutory Dedications and Federal Funds. The Interagency Transfers are federal grants for specialized traffic enforcement from the Highway Safety Commission, Department of Transportation and Development, and the department of Environmental Quality; for security expenses from various state agencies housed in the Capitol Complex area. The Fees and Self-generated Revenues are primarily from a \$5.50 assessment of all motor vehicle inspections and other motor vehicle fees. Other significant Fees and Self-generated Revenues are from fees and fines from the Hazardous Materials Transportation and Motor Carrier Safety Program. The Statutory Dedications are derived from the Louisiana Towing and Storage Fund (R.S. 32:1714), Riverboat Gaming Enforcement Fund (R.S. 27:92), Transportation Trust Fund (Article 7, Section 27 of the Louisiana Constitution), Right to Know Fund (R.S. 30:2373), Weights & Standards Mobile Police Fund (R.S. 32:38), Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Fund (R.S. 32:1522) and the Explosive Trust Fund (R.S. 40:1472.20). Per R.S. 39:36B.(8), see table below for a listing of each statutory dedicated fund. Federal Funds are from the Department of Transportation for the Motor Carrier Safety Program, and the Environmental Protection Agency for emergency response activities.

	ACTUAL	ACT 12	EXISTING	CONTINUATION	RECOMMENDED	RECOMMENDED
	2000-2001	2001-2002	2001-2002	2002-2003	2002-2003	OVER/(UNDER)
						EXISTING
Louisiana Towing and Storage Fund	\$197,346	\$418,093	\$418,093	\$418,339	\$418,093	\$0
Riverboat Gaming Enforcement Fund	\$0	\$895,536	\$895,536	\$495,002	\$425,296	(\$470,240)
Transportation Trust Fund - Regular	\$40,359,877	\$40,309,765	\$40,043,794	\$39,878,524	\$39,878,524	(\$165,270)
Right to Know Fund	\$518,045	\$886,376	\$886,376	\$888,377	\$868,376	(\$18,000)
Weights and Standards Mobile Police Force Fund	\$0	\$1,350,365	\$1,350,365	\$0	\$0	(\$1,350,365)
Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Fund	\$115,129	\$115,129	\$115,129	\$117,892	\$115,129	\$0
Explosives Trust Fund	\$25,795	\$25,795	\$25,795	\$26,415	\$25,795	\$0

MAJOR FINANCIAL CHANGES

GENERAL FUND	TOTAL	T.O.	DESCRIPTION
\$0	\$51,661,123	903	ACT 12 FISCAL YEAR 2001-2002
			BA-7 TRANSACTIONS:
\$0	\$96,635	0	Carry forward funding for five trucks
\$0	\$861,203	0	Increased funding for motor carrier safety enforcement
\$0	\$0	(2)	Reduce T.O. under provisions of Act 844, the early retirement and payroll reduction act
\$0	\$477,588	0	Increased overtime funding aimed at reducing crash reduction accidents
\$0	\$53,096,549	901	EXISTING OPERATING BUDGET - December 20, 2001
\$0	\$471,864	0	Annualization of FY 2001-2002 Classified State Employees Merit Increase
\$0	\$381,854	0	Classified State Employees Merit Increases for FY 2002-2003
\$0	\$484,189	0	Risk Management Adjustment
\$0	\$4,469,685	0	Acquisitions & Major Repairs
\$0	(\$4,555,804)	0	Non-Recurring Acquisitions & Major Repairs
\$0	(\$96,635)	0	Non-Recurring Carry Forwards
\$0	\$133,373	0	Salary Base Adjustment
\$0	(\$985,930)	0	Attrition Adjustment
\$0	\$8,340	0	Salaries funding for training series adjustment
\$0	(\$451,660)	(11)	Gubernatorial Position Reduction
\$0	\$1,898,019	54	Homeland Defense
\$0	(\$68,635)	0	Remove funding for positions abolished under provisions of Act 844
\$0	\$289,609	5	Transfer Crisis Response from Operational Support Program
\$985,930	\$985,930	0	Restoration of attrition
\$985,930	\$56,060,748	949	TOTAL RECOMMENDED
\$0	\$0	0	LESS GOVERNOR'S SUPPLEMENTARY RECOMMENDATIONS
\$985,930	\$56,060,748	949	BASE EXECUTIVE BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2002-2003

MAJOR FINANCIAL CHANGES

GENERAL FUND	TOTAL	T.O.	DESCRIPTION
			SUPPLEMENTARY RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINGENT ON NEW REVENUE:
\$0	\$0	0	None
\$0	\$0	0	TOTAL SUPPLEMENTARY RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINGENT ON NEW REVENUE
\$985,930	\$56,060,748	949	GRAND TOTAL RECOMMENDED

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

\$262,967	Laboratory services for testing chemicals from an emergency incident response
\$99,561	Data entry for motor carrier safety accident reports
\$128,000	Training courses regarding accident investigations, radar operations, etc.
\$490,528	TOTAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

OTHER CHARGES

\$273,861	In-service training for commissioned personnel at the training academy
\$278,783	MCSAP
\$485,687	Attrition academy class
\$114,898	Protective gear for emergency response

\$1,153,229 SUB-TOTAL OTHER CHARGES

Interagency Transfers:

\$297,811	Transferred to Management & Finance for printing, dues/subscriptions, postage, telephone, etc.
\$105,318	Transferred to LSU and Office of Emergency Preparedness for planning and training activities related to the transportation of hazardous materials
\$4,550,687	Risk management premiums

\$4,953,816 SUB-TOTAL INTERAGENCY TRANSFERS

\$6,107,045 TOTAL OTHER CHARGES

ACQUISITIONS AND MAJOR REPAIRS

\$4,161,217	Replacement vehicles (206)
\$308,468	Major Repairs at various troop headquarters
\$4,469,685	TOTAL ACQUISITIONS AND MAJOR REPAIRS